

COMMERCIAL.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1877
We have to report a quiet week on the whole, and have heard several complaints of the excessive duties for this season of the year, particularly in the case of the sugar, notwithstanding the numerous complaints that reach us, we see activity in the various trades of the city that were never before equalled, and we have a fair prospect of a successful season.

Steamer Australia came down Wednesday night, after a splendid run of seven days and nine hours from San Francisco, bringing a large passenger list and considerable freight for this port. Our only other foreign arrival is the *St. Columbia* from Newcastle, en route for San Francisco, with coal, kelp, and we hear that her condition has been materially improved through repairs made by the use of a "diving bell," and she will probably not be long on her way.

Admission per "Australia" pertaining to island produce indicates some change from our last quotations. We copy from Williams, Blanchard & Co's circular.

Rice.—The market is here of refining grades in importers' hands, and a good demand exists for higher grades of *Rice*. Hawaiian rice is quoted at 10¢ per bushel. The demand for island *Molasses* is now light and shows a decline, being quoted at 16¢ per bushel, 25¢ per gallon.

Rice.—All the Hawaiian Rice, including late receipts of Paddy, has been secured by the Chinese, and is being put in 50th rate, the price for same being 10¢ per bushel. The Chinese of the Hawaiian rice No. 1 China includes the present movement on the part of our consumers, the Chinese. We quote No. 1 China at 65¢ per bushel, 5¢ per gallon.

Copra.—Prices on the coast are materially affected by the heavy decline in the East, and the stock on hand being large will carry them over until the arrival of the new crop from the East. Good green Central American is quoted at 10¢ per bushel, 15¢ per gallon. Good green Central American is quoted at 10¢ per bushel, 15¢ per gallon.

Respecting Market quotations in our last issue, we have taken to our review, a paper generally recognized as careful and reliable. It would afford us great pleasure to have our merchants receive their quotations in our paper, and we have endeavored to secure the same, and we have endeavored to secure the same, and we have endeavored to secure the same.

In consequence of this being a National Holiday, business of all kinds is suspended, and the day is devoted to recreation, the principal of which is the Regatta, to be followed by a Ball at the Hotel in the evening.

PORT OF HONOLULU, H. I.

ARRIVALS.

Nov. 10—Am bk *Columbia*, Johnson, 27 days from Tahiti.
11—Sch-r *Purekahi*, Clark, from Hana, Maui.
11—Sch-r *Ka Ma*, Reynolds, from Kahului, Maui.
11—Sch-r *Nettie Merrill*, Hatfield, from Lahaina, Maui.
11—Sch-r *Fanny*, McPherson, from Hilo, Hawaii.
11—Sch-r *Kahaloa*, Mahalo, from Honolulu, Hawaii.
11—Sch-r *Manoahua*, Kaniwa, from Kona and Waimea.
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THE PACIFIC

Commercial Advertiser.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

THE CELEBRATION of His Majesty's birthday yesterday, was carried out with spirit. Salutes were fired at sunrise, noon and sunset. The Regatta was a success, witnessed by thousands at the Ball at the Hawaiian Hotel, (which shore in its refitting) was attended by the *chiefs* of Honolulu, Their Majesties the King and Queen, the Heir Apparent, and H. R. H. the Princess Likelike.

THE TIME is fast approaching when the people of this Kingdom will be called upon to discharge what may justly be styled the most important duty of freemen. In the first week of February of the coming year, 1878—only eleven weeks hence—the election for Representatives in the Legislative Assembly will be held throughout the Kingdom. The business which will then occupy the Hawaiian people is just as important for them as the recent elections in France for the citizens of that republic, or, generally speaking, any similar elections anywhere whatever, for the electors concerned. It would be a great mistake for any persons here—whether natives or foreigners—to underrate the real importance of these forthcoming elections for this country. Our Kingdom, it is true, does not rank amongst the first of the world; and although comparatively speaking, we may be termed a very small body politic; still as we enjoy the priceless privilege of conducting our own affairs constitutionally, a privilege even still denied to many of the greatest nations of the earth, such as Russia, China and others—we really have reason to rejoice at our especially good fortune, and we would be downright fools not to appreciate fully the exalted privilege of freemen which we enjoy.

But, at the same time, it is our bounden duty, as the subjects of a constitutional King, to make good use of that inestimable privilege. It is even well to recall here that, in monarchical governments the very term "Constitutional Monarch," is of itself alone calculated to remind the leiger of their heavy responsibility towards the crown and the country;—inasmuch as a constitutional monarch may be said to have handed over to his people a part of the burden of state which rests entirely upon the head of an absolute government. It is the duty then, of each and every one of the electors to approach the ballot box with the serious conviction that he is actually engaged in aiding his King to support the burden of state, and that upon his individual vote in part depends the prosperity of both government and country.

It is furthermore highly proper for each elector to have well before his mind the object for which he is called upon to cast his vote into the ballot box. That vote goes to resolve the question: who shall be the select few charged by the people with the framing of the laws of the land. It is needless to observe that it is of vital importance that the best qualified men in the state should be elected as its legislators. Mistakes have occurred in the previous legislatures, and such mistakes must be rectified. Sound laws must be enacted for the present and future government of the nation. All the subjects of the realm have a most decided interest at stake, in the right use of the ballot-box by the electors, and they will be derelict to duty if they fail to intelligently exercise the privilege. In the present state of our legislative standing, the imperative necessity of electing the best qualified men for our legislature is more especially apparent. The Representatives, who shall be elected in February, will have to face at once some very arduous duties. In the first place, they will be called upon to consider the past legislative enactments by which the taxation of the country is carried out. A great deal has been said and written lately about a system of double taxation which has been prevalent in this Kingdom, under a legislative enactment, whose constitutionality is even called into question. The injustice in the case refers to the double taxation of joint stock shares and mortgages. But, there are also other cases in which the Representatives elected next February may be called upon to decide as to the equity of the past and present systems of taxation. Article 14 of the Constitution declares that "Each member of society has a right to be protected by it, in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and property, according to law; and, therefore, he shall be obliged to contribute his proportional share to the expense of this protection, &c." Now it will be the task of the Legislature at its next session, to study and decide whether each member of this community really pays, under existing legislation, "his proportional share" of the expense of government, inasmuch as there is good reason to conclude that a very unfair and